



Freshman Newsletter

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Congratulations – you finished your first year at The Beach! Summer is a great time to recharge your batteries; gear-up for sophomore year; and remind yourself why you wanted to come to college, what you have already accomplished, what you want to become, and what resources you need to get you there.

SPREAD THE WORD!

If you know of any high school seniors that are coming to The Beach this fall, tell them about the Learning Alliance. We want more great students in our program! Applications are available on the Learning Alliance website at <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/cla/alliance/> at the bottom of the “Prospective Students” page.

IMPORTANT SUMMER CONCERNS

Don't forget to pay your fees! See pages 16-17 of the Fall Schedule of Classes for more details.

Taking summer school? Here are some important dates to remember:

- CSULB Summer Session I: June 2 - July 11
- CSULB Summer Session II: June 23 - August 1
- CSULB Summer Session III: July 14 - August 22
- Campus closed on July 4 for Independence Day
- First day to register for over 16 units is August 1
- First day of classes for Fall 2008 is September 2

Take the Writing Proficiency Exam this summer!

The next test is Saturday, July 12 (sign up by Friday, June 20). Register online at www.csulb.edu/divisions/students2/testing/test_information/wpe/

Taking classes at a community college?

ASSIST (<http://www.assist.org>) can tell you which classes will count at CSULB. Don't forget to submit a transcript of community college classes taken to Enrollment Services (BH-101) to earn credit at CSULB!

Looking for a job? BeachLINK

(<http://careers.csulb.edu/beachlink.html>) is a one-stop shop to finding a job on or off campus. An on-campus job is a great way to feel more connected to campus!

MAJOR DECISIONS & MINOR THOUGHTS

If you're still undecided on which major to choose, or unsure if you have chosen “the right” major, don't fret. Eighty percent of college students change majors at least once. Sometimes, finding the best major for you takes time and requires additional exploration.

In addition, many students pursue minors as a way to broaden their experience or prepare them for a specific career. Most minors consist of 18-25 units and can usually be completed in addition to a major without adding extra semesters to your progress to graduation. The key is to use your General Education (GE) requirements and electives to count towards your minor.

Summer is a great time to research different majors, minors, and career options. One way is to get a summer job or internship in a field you are considering in order to get hands-on experience and to see if a career in that field would be a good fit for you. Many internships can be found at www.careers.csulb.edu/students/jobs/internships. It also helps to talk to faculty and students already in a major or minor you're considering or who are working in a related field to learn about their experiences, make connections, and determine your own plans.

Another resource for major, minor, and internship advice is your major advisor. Who is your major advisor? This is a member of the department faculty who can help navigate you through the requirements of your major, provide information about graduate school and careers in your chosen field, and connect you to leadership and involvement opportunities in your major. A listing of major advisors can be found beginning on page 71 of the Schedule of Classes. Many departments also have additional information about majors, internships, involvement and leadership opportunities, etc. posted on their webpages.